



# AETC News Clips

## Air Force Times



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**1 Feb 06**

### **Lackland gunsmith shop sees transformation**

By [Bruce Rolfen](#)

*Times staff writer*

If you needed custom work done on an Air Force handgun or rifle, you used to contact the Air Force Gunsmith Shop at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

But even the job of caring for small arms isn't immune from reorganization and name inflation.

The Lackland shop is now called the Air Force Gunsmith Integrated Product Team, according to a Jan. 27 Air Force release.

Instead of being under Air Education and Training Command, the shop now answers to Materiel Command's 542nd Armament Sustainment Group at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, Ga.

Eleven airmen and civilians work at the shop, where projects range from designing and installing a feed tray for blank ammo used in M240B machine guns to custom finishing the 9 mm Berettas used by general officers.

The shop's origins go back to 1958 and the creation of the Air Force Marksmanship Center at Lackland. The shop was at its peak in the early 1960s when it had 64 gunsmiths.



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## Maxwell AFB, Ala.



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### Sergeants add spit and polish at Lee High School

By **Alvin Benn**  
**Montgomery Advertiser**  
Jan 29 2005

Air Force sergeants stationed at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base have been sprucing up Robert E. Lee High School for more than a year, and their good work was easy to spot in the hallways and classrooms Saturday.

As members of the Senior Noncommissioned Officers Academy at the base, the Air Force master and senior master sergeants gave up what would have been a relaxing Saturday morning to paint red stripes down hallways and clean up classrooms.

Different classes have been doing it every few months during their NCO stints at Maxwell, and none of them see it as a burden.

"I'd probably be in the gym right now, but it doesn't bother me because I can always go when I'm through here," said Senior Master Sgt. Glen Robinson as he held a paintbrush in one hand and surveyed his work. "I get a lot of gratification from doing this."

In addition to taking part in the Lee cleanup project, the enlisted personnel also help with the school's Air Force Junior ROTC program.

Brig. Gen. Ronnie Hawkins Jr., commander of the Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools at the base, clearly was pleased when he saw all the good things the enlisted men and women were doing during the 3-and-a-half-hour cleanup.

"This is a great contribution to the school as well as the Junior ROTC program here," Hawkins said. "We have a set of core values, including service before self, and this is one of those projects."

In addition to painting inside the school, some of the enlisted personnel took advantage of a beautiful day to work at the Lee track.

Master Sgt. Jeff Kill joined a group of friends at the site where the "This Is General Country" sign received a fresh coat of paint after years of neglect.

Master Sgt. Deb Marsh, who has been in the Air Force for 22 years, said she had often taken part in volunteer work to help in community projects.

"We've helped with veterans' cemeteries before Memorial Day as well as other projects," she said. "This is definitely worthwhile because this might help inspire the kids."